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Express Mail No. EV475142198US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Hehli et al. Confirmation No.: 2490  
Serial No.: 10/694,846 Art Unit: 3736  
Filed: October 29, 2003 Examiner: To be assigned  
For: OSTEOSYNTHETIC DEVICE Attorney Docket No: 8932-802-999

**REQUEST FOR STATUS OF APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

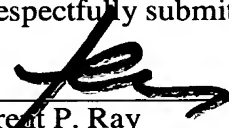
Sir:

The above-identified patent application was filed on October 29, 2003. To date, no office action on the merits has been issued. Since it has been over two years since the application was filed, please advise the undersigned of the status of the application. In particular, please advise of the expected date for receipt of the first office action.

If there are any questions regarding this request or the application in general, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 5, 2006

  
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54,390  
(Reg. No.)